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Deans Council Conversation 2

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The College at Brockport, "Deans Council Conversation 2" (2012). *College of 2025 Conversations*. 3.
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Deans Council

The College at Brockport 2025

12/7/12

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The big things that our group discussed as having the biggest impact on Brockport 2025 are listed here with discussion notes around each topic.

Venue and delivery methods...where and how we teach

- There will be more of a shift to on-line teaching and learning and we need to be ready to ride the wave however this methodology brings its own set of challenges
- The loss of human contact will stifle creativity & make it more difficult to understand student behaviors and needs
- Learning will happen best in a community...community will be continually re-defined and we will need to be nimble in our ability to react accordingly

Quality of students....Challenges they bring to college.....How we react

- Students lack coping skills and do not know when to ask for help, what type of help to seek or how to use the help they get.
- There seems to be an increasing level of remedial need and if that continues our future will be more heavily geared toward teaching students how to learn
- The out-of-classroom services will need to adjust as we do more on-line teaching, possibly see greater numbers of non-traditional students with different needs
- The current public educational system is focused on students passing some form of standardized test which does not help make students college-ready.....there needs to be a better link between the K-12 educational system/higher education and the needs of our work-force.
- Students are coming to school with increasingly poor communication skills...the social media age encourages these poor skills/techniques and it will potentially only get worse
- It takes too long to make changes in curriculum and policy flexibility to react to student quality/challenges, etc. will have an impact
- Long discussion on what will an honors student look like in the future and how do we identify and deal with this group of students (one example given was the fact that we give them ipads and in most cases they already have ipads) so that they get the academic rigor they deserve/have earned.

The changing 'job description' of our faculty

- Cross-discipline teaching is going to be the wave of the future
- Critical thinking and communication skills need to be integrated into every single course curriculum
- The traditional teaching methods will longer exist....faculty have to teach in ways that students learn and will have to adjust 'on the fly' which will be a great challenge.
- There will need to be more cross-divisional cooperation especially if there is less faculty-student contact. This will make it increasingly difficult to identify student needs/wants/issues. The faculty role as counselor or advisor may increase/change.